IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 33, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68 and 70, without prejudice:

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit, comprising:

a driving device connecting a high potential power supply line to an output terminal connectable to a capacitive load; and

a power distributing circuit connected between the high potential power supply line and the driving device without providing another power distributing circuit between a low potential power supply line and the driving device.

2. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the power distributing circuit is a resistive element having an impedance whose value is not smaller than one-tenth of the value of a resistive component of the conducting impedance of the driving device.

3. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 2, wherein the power distributing circuit is a high-power resistor having a capability to handle power higher than the allowable power of the driving device.

4. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the power distributing circuit is a constant-current source.

5. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein a driving power supply source outputs a plurality of different voltage levels, at equally divided voltage steps, to the high potential power supply line.

6. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 5, wherein the power distributing circuit includes a plurality of power distributing units, one for each of the plurality of different voltage levels.

7. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 6, wherein each of the power distributing units has a function as a switch for selecting one of the plurality of different voltage levels.

8. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the driving device is a device whose input withstand voltage is higher than an output voltage.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit, comprising:

a driving device connecting a low potential power supply line to an output terminal connectable to a capacitive load; and

a power distributing circuit connected between the low potential power supply line and the driving device without providing another power distributing circuit between a high potential power supply line and the driving device.

10. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 9, wherein the power distributing circuit is a resistive element having an impedance whose value is not smaller than one-tenth of the value of a resistive component of the conducting impedance of the driving device.

11. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 10, wherein the power distributing circuit is a high-power resistor having a capability to handle power higher than the allowable power of the driving device.

12. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 9, wherein the power distributing circuit is a constant-current source.

13. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 9, wherein a driving power supply source outputs a plurality of different voltage levels, at equally divided voltage steps, to the low potential power supply line.

14. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 13, wherein the power distributing circuit includes a plurality of power distributing units, one for each of the plurality of different voltage levels.

15. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 14, wherein each of the power distributing units has a function as a switch for selecting one of the plurality of different voltage levels.

16. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 9, wherein the driving device is a device whose input withstand voltage is higher than an output voltage.

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit, comprising:

a plurality of driving devices driving a plurality of capacitive loads and formed in an integrated circuit; and

a power distributing circuit connected between each of the plurality of driving devices and a high potential power supply line without providing another power distributing circuit between each of the plurality of driving devices and a low potential power supply line, the power distributing circuit being provided outside of the integrated circuit.

18. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 17, further comprising a diode inserted between each of the capacitive loads and a corresponding one of the driving devices.

19. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 17, wherein each of the power distributing circuit is a resistive element having an impedance whose value is not smaller than one-tenth of the conducting impedance of the driving device divided by the number of driving devices connected to the power distributing circuit.

20. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 19, wherein each of the power distributing circuit is a high-power resistor having a capability to handle power higher than the allowable power of the driving device.

21. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 17, wherein each of the power distributing circuit is a constant-current source.

22. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 17, wherein a driving power supply source outputs a plurality of different voltage levels, at equally divided voltage steps, to the high potential power supply line.

23. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 22, wherein the power distributing circuit includes a plurality of power distributing units, one for each of the plurality of different voltage levels.

24. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 23, wherein each of the power distributing units has a function as a switch for selecting one of the plurality of different voltage levels.

25. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 17, wherein the driving device is a device whose input withstand voltage is higher than an output voltage.

26. (CANCELED)

27. (CANCELED)

28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 17, wherein a series connection of each of the power distributing circuit and a switch device is provided between each of the driving devices and the high potential power supply line.

29. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 17, wherein the capacitive-load driving circuit is constructed as a driving module containing a plurality of driving integrated circuits for driving the capacitive loads.

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 29, wherein each of the driving integrated circuits comprises a high-voltage output device whose input withstand voltage is increased up to a high potential power supply voltage, and a flip-flop that drives a control input of the output device to a full-swing level either at the high potential power supply voltage or at a low potential power supply voltage.

31. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 29, wherein each of the driving integrated circuits includes a buffer driven by a logic voltage, and wherein an output of the buffer is connected to an input terminal of the each driving device, and the power distributing circuit to an inverting input terminal of the each driving device, thereby applying self-biasing to the driving device by a voltage drop occurring across the power distributing circuit.

32. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 29, further comprising a switch inserted between the power distributing circuit and the high potential power supply line, the switch being caused to conduct after the driving devices have been switched into a conducting state.

33. (CANCELLED)

34. (CANCELED)

35. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit for driving a capacitive load, connected to an output terminal, by a driving device, comprising a resistive impedance inserted between the output terminal and the capacitive load, wherein the resistive impedance provides an impedance whose value is not smaller than one-tenth of the value of a resistive component of the conducting impedance of at least one of the driving devices.

36. (CANCELED)

37. (ORIGINAL) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 35, wherein the resistive impedance is a distributed resistor showing a resistance value not smaller than three-tenths of the value of a resistive component of the conducting impedance of at least one of the driving devices.

38. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 35, further comprising:

a driving power supply source connected to the output terminal via the driving device; and

a power distributing circuit inserted between a high potential power supply line and the driving device.

39. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 35, further comprising:

a reference potential point connected to the output terminal via the driving device; and

a power distributing circuit inserted between a low potential power supply line and the driving device.

40. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 35, further comprising a plurality of driving devices driving a plurality of capacitive loads, formed in an integrated circuit, wherein each of the driving devices is connected to a high potential power supply line or a low potential power supply line via a power distributing circuit, the power distributing circuit being provided outside of the integrated circuit.

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69. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit, comprising:

a driving device connecting a low potential power supply line to an output terminal connectable to a capacitive load; and

a power distributing circuit connected between the low potential power supply line and the driving device, the power distributing circuit being a constant-current source.

70. (CANCELED)

71. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit, comprising:

a plurality of driving devices driving a plurality of capacitive loads and formed in an integrated circuit; and

a power distributing circuit connected between each of the plurality of driving devices and a low potential power supply line without providing another power distributing circuit between each of the plurality of driving devices and a high potential power supply line, and the power distributing circuit being provided outside of the integrated circuit.

72. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 71, further comprising a diode inserted between each of the capacitive loads and a corresponding one of the driving devices.

73. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 71, wherein each of the power distributing circuits is a resistive element having an impedance whose value is not smaller than one-tenth of the conducting impedance of the driving device divided by the number of driving devices connected to the power distributing circuit.

74. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 73, wherein each of the power distributing circuits is a high-power resistor having a capability to handle power higher than the allowable power of the driving device.

75. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 71, wherein each of the power distributing circuits is a constant-current source.

76. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 71, wherein a driving power supply source outputs a plurality of different voltage levels , at equally divided voltage steps, to the low potential power supply line.

77. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 76, wherein the power distributing circuit includes a plurality of power distributing units, one for each of the plurality of different voltage levels.

78. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 77, wherein each of the power distributing units has a function as a switch for selecting one of the plurality of different voltage levels.

79. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 71, wherein the driving device is a device whose input withstand voltage is higher than an output voltage.

80. (CANCELED)

81. (CANCELED)

82. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 71, wherein a series connection of each of the power distributing circuit and a switch device is provided between each of the driving devices and the low potential power supply line.

83. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 71, wherein the capacitive load driving circuit is constructed as a driving module containing a plurality of driving integrated circuits for driving the capacitive loads.

84. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 83, wherein each of the driving integrated circuits comprises a high-voltage output device whose input withstand voltage is increased up to a high potential power supply voltage, and a flip flop that drives a control input of the output device to a full-swing level either at the high potential power supply voltage or at a low potential power supply voltage.

85. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 83, wherein each of the driving integrated circuits includes a buffer driven by a logic voltage, and wherein an output of the buffer is connected to an input terminal of each driving device, and the power distributing circuit is connected to an inverting input terminal of each driving device, thereby applying self-biasing to the driving device by a voltage drop occurring across the power distributing circuit.

86. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 83, further comprising a switch inserted between the power distributing circuit and the driving power supply source or the reference potential point, and the switch being caused to conduct after the driving devices have been switched into a conducting state.

87. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the capacitive-load driving circuit is used as an electrode driving circuit of a plasma display apparatus to drive address electrodes thereof, the plasma display apparatus further having X and Y electrodes constituting sustain discharge electrodes.

88. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 87, wherein:

the plasma display apparatus is a three-electrode surface-discharge AC plasma display apparatus in which the address electrodes are formed on a first substrate and the X and Y electrodes are formed on a second substrate; and

a thickness of a conductive layer of each of the address electrodes is reduced to one half, or less, of a thickness of a conductive layer formed from the same material as the conductive layer of each of the X and Y electrodes.

89. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 87, wherein:

the plasma display apparatus is a three-electrode surface-discharge AC plasma display apparatus in which the address electrodes are formed on a first substrate and X and Y electrodes are formed on a second substrate; and

each of the address electrodes is formed from a plurality of conductive metal layers, and an arbitrary one of the conductive metal layers is omitted.

90. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 9, wherein the capacitive-load driving circuit is used as an electrode driving circuit of a plasma display apparatus to drive address electrodes thereof, the plasma display apparatus further having X and Y electrodes constituting sustain discharge electrodes.

91. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 90, wherein:

the plasma display apparatus is a three-electrode surface-discharge AC plasma display apparatus in which the address electrodes are formed on a first substrate and the X and Y electrodes are formed on a second substrate; and

a thickness of a conductive layer of each of the address electrodes is reduced to one half, or less, of a thickness of a conductive layer formed from a same material as a conductive layer of each of the X and Y electrodes.

92. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 87, wherein:

the plasma display apparatus is a three-electrode surface-discharge AC plasma display apparatus in which the address electrodes are formed on a first substrate and X and Y electrodes are formed on a second substrate; and

each of the address electrodes is formed from a plurality of conductive metal layers, and an arbitrary one of the conductive metal layers is omitted.

93. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 17, wherein the capacitive-load driving circuit is used as an electrode driving circuit of a plasma display apparatus to drive address electrodes thereof.

94. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 93, wherein:

the plasma display apparatus is a three-electrode surface-discharge AC plasma display apparatus in which the address electrodes are formed on a first substrate and X and Y electrodes are formed on a second substrate; and

a thickness of a conductive layer of each of the address electrodes is reduced to one half or less, of a thickness of a conductive layer formed from a same material as a conductive layer of each of the X and Y electrodes.

95. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 93, wherein:

the plasma display apparatus is a three-electrode surface-discharge AC plasma display apparatus in which the address electrodes are formed on a first substrate and X and Y electrodes are formed on a second substrate; and

each of the address electrodes is formed from a plurality of conductive metal layers, and an arbitrary one of the conductive metal layers is omitted.

96. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 71, wherein the capacitive-load driving circuit is used as an electrode driving circuit of a plasma display apparatus to drive address electrodes thereof.

97. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 96, wherein:

the plasma display apparatus is a three-electrode surface-discharge AC plasma display apparatus in which the address electrodes are formed on a first substrate and X and Y electrodes are formed on a second substrate; and

a thickness of a conductive layer of each of the address electrodes is reduced to one half, or less, of a thickness of a conductive layer formed from a same material as a conductive layer of each of the X and Y electrodes.

98. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A capacitive-load driving circuit as claimed in claim 96, wherein:

the plasma display apparatus is a three-electrode surface-discharge AC plasma display apparatus in which the address electrodes are formed on a first substrate and X and Y electrodes are formed on a second substrate; and

each of the address electrodes is formed from a plurality of conductive metal layers, and an arbitrary one of the conductive metal layers is omitted.